

Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH)
Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics (DVRHS)

Michigan Inpatient Hospital Database (MIDB):

Annual Database Includes All Individual Discharge Records From
All Michigan Short-Stay Hospitals and Hospitals in Contiguous Areas of Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Historical Prospective

MIDB is the brain child of the Michigan Health Data Corporation (MHDC) and the Commission on Professional and Hospital Activities (CPHA). Between 1978 and 1994, MHDC and CPHA developed and constructed the annual MIDB from all individual discharges supplied by Michigan short-stay hospitals including four acute care Veterans Affairs hospitals, and hospitals in contiguous areas of Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin. Since 1995, the information technological progress has made it possible for the Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA) to solely carry out this mission forward. To truly appreciate the time and effort involved in developing MIDB, a few words about CPHA and MHDC are in order.

CPHA was a non-profit, non-commercial research and education center, established in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1955. By 1978, CPHA collected national information on over 150 million hospital discharges. About 2,100 hospitals in the United States and Canada participated in the CPHA, but not all Michigan hospitals were included in this project. This was one of the main reasons MHDC was established in 1978. MHDC members include MHA, MDCH, Southeast Michigan Health Council, Michigan Peer Review, Wayne State University, University of Michigan, and Michigan State University. Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Health Insurance Association of America, and Medicaid. MHDC was the first and only statewide voluntary health data system in the United States with a mission of providing information to improve understanding of health care in Michigan. During 1978 through 1994, MHDC provided technical supports to CPHA in developing and constructing the annual MIDB.

Through a contractual agreement with MHDC and CPHA (1982-1994) and with MHA (since 1995), the MDCH has access to all MIDB individual discharge records. To ensure data quality and MIDB integrity, the MDCH's Division of Vital Records and Health Statistics has developed a standard editing procedure, and since 1982, this procedure has served as a guideline for reviewing and editing discharge records with inconsistent information such as those in which sex or age of the patient were inconsistent with the recorded medical information.

Data Review and Editing

Data provided by hospitals were carefully checked and edited by CPHA. Over 350 checks were performed during the processing of each record in order to ensure the reliability of the data received. The data are further reviewed by staff of the MDCH's Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics (DVRHS).

Sources of data used during the review process include (1) MDCH's Vital Records, (2) Annual Survey of Health Facilities conducted by the Michigan Department of Community Health, (3) National Editing Procedures from National Center for Health Statistics, (4) Data items with verifications from MHDC or hospital medical records personnel and (5) Census Population by age, sex, and zip code for the U.S. Bureau of Census.